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Photo by Adam Wilson / Alestle



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Professor Darron Luesse and senior biology major Michael Vierling, of St. Louis, Mo., discuss their goals for the day in the Science West building on Monday, Jan. 19.

| Photo by Adam Mason/Alestle

Growing life in space

Professor's research rockets into outer space

PUJA MEHTA
Alestle Reporter

During the university's winter break, Biological Sciences Associate Professor Darron Luesse was working with NASA and other researchers to send plants into outer space. Luesse said he was pleased to receive a grant from NASA.

"I wouldn't say this is my first big project because all research projects, when you do them, are

big. This is just the first one that other people care about because it's NASA and that is inherently kind of cool," Luesse said. "It's the first time since I've been in Edwardsville that I've convinced anyone to give me money to do research."

Luesse worked with professor in the department of environmental and plant biology, Sarah Wyatt, of Ohio University, to make this project happen. Wyatt said it was exciting to work with NASA.

"Getting to 'fly' something — having my research on the [International] Space Station — is incredible. Most researchers don't even consider the possibility and for someone who dreamed as a child of being an astronaut, this is certainly close," Wyatt said. "It was really exciting going to Kennedy Space Center. I remember that when Dr. Luesse and I first got there, we were like kids in a candy store."

At SIUE, Luesse worked with a graduate student as well. Graduate biology student Sarah Hutchinson, of Troy, Ill., said she enjoyed communicating with and meeting people who work for NASA.

"It was so cool! I was talking to NASA people! I was actually on the NASA base and it was awesome. Dr. Luesse has been so helpful," Hutchinson said. "I've gotten to meet a lot of people and

started to get a lot of contacts. It's laid a nice groundwork for continuing on."

Agriculture in Outer Space

Most people are curious about space travel. According to Luesse, the results obtained from this feat could be integral to one day sending manned missions to space.

Hutchinson said even though the space travel theory is an interesting aspect of this project, it is not the only reason for doing the research.

"It's exciting that this is applicable to outer space, but it's not just that. It's not information that we're going to have to store away for a long time. It has practical uses, too," Hutchinson said.

plant growth to get answers to their questions. Wyatt said it was necessary to send plants into space in order to study the effects of gravity on their growth and development.

"As humans, when say a bug lands on our arm, there is a signal that runs to our brain that tells us it is there, and then a new signal is generated to tell us to swat it. Plants don't have brains and neurons. They don't respond in the same way, but they do respond," Wyatt said. "So, the question is: How? What are the mechanisms? Because I work on gravity, it is hard to sort out those signals because there is no place on Earth where you have the ultimate control group -- lack of gravity. If you study light, you can put plants in the dark. If you study gravity, which is the most fundamental of stimuli governing plant growth, what do you do? That is why this spaceflight is so important. It is the one place where I can see the true effects of a lack of gravity."

The Gas Exchange

Gravity is integral to proper plant growth, but so is appropriate gas exchange. According to Luesse, outer space affects plants' abilities to do both.

"There are also problems with gas exchange in space ... When the gases don't exchange correctly, the roots have an environment where there is not enough oxygen and it is really stressful for them.

"I wouldn't say this is my first big project... This is just the first one that other people care about because it's NASA, and that is inherently kind of cool."

Darron Luesse

Biological sciences associate professor

"If we're ever going to send people to Mars or for space travel, we're going to need to grow plants for oxygen production and food. So it's in NASA's interest to figure out what is going on in plants in space, and then kind of how they're coping with it — what the plant's strategy is to fix it," Luesse said. "That way we can help them along the way. Like, 'Okay, this is what the plant is trying to do; we can enhance this or fix this.' Figuring out what's wrong is the first step in fixing the problem. So we figure out what's wrong, and help grow plants in space."

According to Luesse, one of the more down-to-earth parts of this project is its value in agriculture.

"When we think of agriculture, the more bushels per acre, the less acres you need to plow under, [and] the more room [you have] for parks, trees, or people to live and all the other things we like to do with our space. So if we can convince plants to grow up instead of out, somehow through genetic engineering or agricultural practices, it'll help," Luesse said.

While getting the grant for this research was exciting, it was also crucial in order to understand

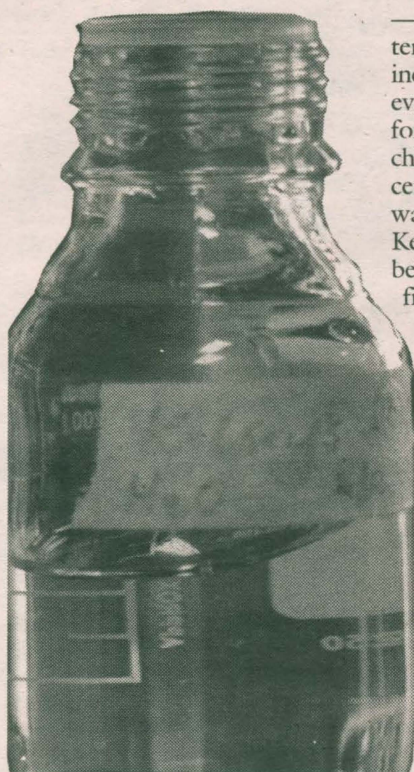


Photo by Adam Mason/Alestle | Photo illustration by Mady O'Reilly/Alestle

NASA | from pg. 2

We basically want to figure out how plants — on a cellular level — deal with stress in space,” Luesse said.

According to Luesse, the plants are currently in orbit at the International Space Station.

“There’s really no gravity up there. Technically, there is something called micro-gravity, which is just the force from the spinning of the space station’s orbit, but there is basically no gravity,” Luesse said. “The plants grew for three days, and then the astronauts injected some fixative in there, that basically stopped everything from happening, and then they put them in the freezer. So they’re in the freezer now, and on Feb. 10, they’re supposed to load them back on the rocket that took them up, and they’ll come back to Earth.”

Wyatt said although all the plans have been set in motion, the scientists in charge are worried that something may not go as planned.

“So many things could go wrong and we don’t necessarily get a do-over. These are rare and expensive opportunities. The people at Kennedy have been great! They really want everything to go well. We have all worked together to try to ensure that the experiment will be a success,” Wyatt said. I have confidence that we have done all we can to make sure that it is successful, but, sure, I’m a little nervous and will be until I see the space-flown seedlings and have the data in hand.”

Luesse said he was apprehensive too, partially due to some of the challenges they ran into during the practice runs of the design.

“The biggest challenge we ran into was one time the seed didn’t germinate. When you do this stuff, you have to do a couple practice runs. So we flew down to NASA, set it all up, and they put it on like a pretend space station in a room somewhere for a few days, and checked to see if everything worked right. And one time it didn’t. The seeds didn’t germinate and we still don’t really know why, but then we got new seeds, they refined some of their methods and now it’s working,” Luesse said.

Breaking the Sequence

In order to find answers to all of their questions, Luesse said it is fundamental to study the proteins in the plant cells because they are often used to turn genes on and off.

According to Luesse, not only did the researchers have to understand the various proteins within any plant cells, but they also were strategic in choosing what kind of plant to use.

“I used Arabidopsis because it’s a good model for larger, more important plants. It has no agricultural value — no one cares about it... It does have a really small genome that is completely sequenced, so we can identify where all the genes are, and 99 percent of its genes are also found in soybeans,” Luesse said. “So if we can figure something out about Arabidopsis, then we can apply it to soybean, which is much more complicated.”

A Whole Lot of Work

The value of this research can not only be seen in its importance, but it is also illustrated by the time the researchers spent working on it. Hutchinson said she spent much of her downtime on this task.

“For this project, I spent several hours a week. I’d come in on the weekends to water the plants, too. I actually was put on a research grant with it, so it was kind of my job for the semester. When I’m not studying, I’m doing research work,” Hutchinson said.

According to Luesse, once the plants come back from space, they will be mailed to Wyatt so she can study the proteins involved.

“She’ll do the proteomic analysis. Then we’ll basically get a list of genes that were turned on, turned off, or had modifications. Our next task will be to go through all those lists and try to figure out which ones are important. And then, do more experiments on those. So that’s when students here will get more involved in those,” Luesse said.

Although the plants have not come back yet, Wyatt said she has an idea of what to expect.

“I am expecting to see differences in the proteins that the plants express in response to the lack of gravity on the International Space Station; exactly what those proteins are, I don’t know or have a specific expectation,” Wyatt said.

After studying what genes are turned on and off, comparative studies can be done as well. Luesse said he is also planning to see some activity in the genes that are affected by gravity.

“We are expecting to see some genes involved in gravity, and some genes involved with coping with the lack of oxygen. Really, one of the things we’re interested in is comparing this to the RNA data. So by seeing where genes are turned on and off, we can figure out how that relates to the protein ... There might be proteins that are broken down, that normally aren’t broken down on Earth. It’s almost like there’s not really a set hypothesis. There’s going to be a bucket load of data that we have to plow through, and we’re going to look for cool parts of it,” Luesse said.

Communication Conflict

Since Wyatt lives in Ohio, this adventure required the use of alternate forms of communication, Luesse said.

“We talked on the phone when we needed to, communicated by email, and when we did the project, we’d meet in Florida,” Luesse said. “What makes it easier is we both know kind of what we’re supposed to do. We both had specific roles.”

It isn’t uncommon in science for people to work together many miles apart. Wyatt said she had worked with Luesse in the past and was delighted to do so again.

“I know his work well; I knew he could bring expertise to the project and I like working with him. I was very pleased when he agreed to work on the project,” Wyatt said.

Although Luesse and Wyatt used various forms of communication for the project, Hutchinson was able to work with Luesse in person.

“I applied to SIUE as a graduate student and one of the parts of the master’s process is you have to go talk to professors, and he’s actually the first professor I talked to... And I really liked his research because I had done some plant stuff in undergrad,” Hutchinson said. “Once I got in, he said, ‘Well, I think I’m going to put you on the NASA project.’ I thought, ‘I’m not going to pass up the chance to put something in space.’”

Puja Mehta can be reached at pmehta@alestlelive.com or 650-3525.



NASA’s SpaceX Dragon rocket, containing Sarah Wyatt and Darron Luesse’s research, will return at the end of this month, where they can then gather results.

SIUE POLICE BLOTTER

1-21-15

Roommates believed someone had been getting into their apartment while they were not at home. There was nothing found to be missing or disturbed, and they felt it might have been University Housing or maintenance. They were referred to University Housing to handle the issue.

1-22-15

An officer took a walk-in report of theft of laundry from a dryer in the Woodland Hall laundry room.

Callers reported an injured deer in the middle of East University Drive. The deer was euthanized on site. The animal was struck by a Madison County Transit bus.

An officer picked up a wallet found in Peck Hall. He was able to return it to the owner, a professor, right away.

1-23-15

An officer checked on a vehicle that had been parked in the Evergreen Hall Circle Drive for more than two hours with its hazard lights on. The officer made contact with the driver and he moved the car.

A caller was visiting in Cougar Village and found damage to her car when she was leaving.

An officer issued a citation to Andrew D. Beach for driving while using an electronic communication device. The offense occurred on Circle Drive.

An officer issued citations to Ashley A. Stewart for expired registration and operating an

uninsured motor vehicle. The offense occurred on North University Drive at New Poag Road.

An officer responded to the Cougar Village Commons regarding the front desk worker saying there was a verbal argument between two roommates.

Nicholas T. Tone was arrested for theft. He was processed and released with a notice to appear.

An officer responded to North University Drive regarding a hit deer. The driver was not injured, but the deer was euthanized.

1-24-15

An officer issued a citation to Caressa J. Davis for speeding 50 mph in a 25 mph speed zone. The offense occurred on South University Drive at P2 Road.

An officer issued a citation to Alexandra M. Brinovec for driving while using an electronic communication device. The offense occurred on South University Drive at P2 Road.

1-25-15

After being cited for speeding 50 mph in a 25 mph speed zone, Kayla M. Haywood was taken into custody for driving on an expired driver's license for more than a year. She was transported to the SIUE Police Department to be processed. Haywood was released after posting \$150 bond. Her vehicle was driven from the scene by a valid driver.

Clear skies ahead for Spring 2015 stargazing

MICHAEL ORANIKA
Alestle Reporter

Physics professor Nicole Gugliucci will host a stargazing event, the first one of the semester, in the William C. Shaw Skylab. The event, originally scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 22 was cancelled due to cloud coverage, but is rescheduled to take place on Thursday, Feb. 19 and every subsequent even-dated Thursday.

Gugliucci said she has been doing outreach with telescopes since she was an undergraduate.

"We have an 8-inch Celestron telescope ... provided by the Center for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics," Gugliucci said. "It has manual controls only, so it takes a bit of time to set up. We're hopefully getting a computer-controlled one from the physics department soon. I also bring out several other telescopes provided by the physics department, such as a set of binoculars on a tripod and some older telescopes called Questars."

According to Gugliucci, there has been an increase in local interest in astronomy. During some events, local high school students attend at the encouragement of their astronomy teachers.

"Some students attend as part of their class. Some SIUE

students from a business class have been asked to attend several events, and I offer it as extra credit for the physics class that I teach," Gugliucci said. "We get different students throughout the semester — some getting their assignments done early and others who do it later in the semester. Plus, different people in the community come at different

how beautiful the night sky is, as well as appreciation for what they can see through a modest telescope.

"The best nights for stargazing are when Saturn is visible, because stargazers see its rings, which surprises them every time," Gugliucci said.

"Astronomy is important to me as a 'gateway' science,"

“Finally, astronomy is accessible to anyone who can get a view of the night sky. Even from a city, Jupiter and Saturn are an amazing sight.”

Nicole Gugliucci
Physics professor

times, based on their schedule.”

Gugliucci said she occasionally receives assistance with the event from another local outreach group, the River Bend Astronomy Club.

"They run many outreach events as well, and sometimes we collaborate on larger events such as meteor shower watching from Shaw Skylab or public events from Annie's Custard," Gugliucci said.

Gugliucci said she hopes people leave with a sense of

Gugliucci said. "It is inspiring to so many people, and it is often their first foray into modern science. Astronomy is also a facet of basic scientific research from which stem all kinds of useful and even profitable technological advancements. Finally, astronomy is accessible to anyone who can get a view of the night sky. Even from a city, Jupiter and Saturn are an amazing sight."

Michael Oranika can be reached at moranika@alestlelive.com or 650-3525.



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THIS WEEK IN GREEK

Thursday, Jan. 29

Alpha Kappa Lambda is hosting AKL's Cutest Couple 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 29, in the Meridian Ballroom. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$5.

Tuesday, Feb. 3

There will be an "Ending Rape" speaker at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3, in the Meridian Ballroom. It is mandatory for 25% of each chapter to be there. Attendance is open to the public.

Wednesday, Feb. 4

Alpha Phi is hosting Alpha Phi's King of Hearts 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4, in the Meridian Ballroom. Tickets will be sold for \$5 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 30, in the Goshen Lounge. Tickets will be \$6 at the door.

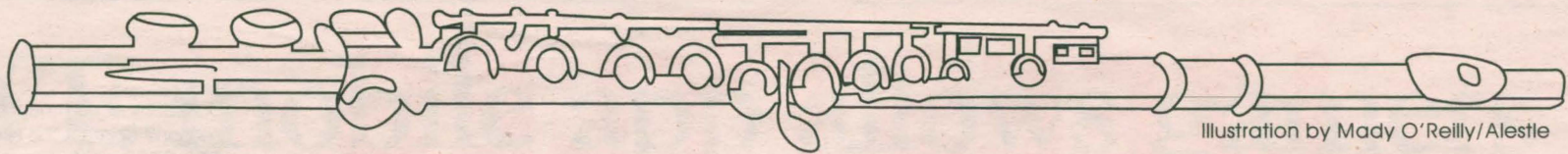


Illustration by Mady O'Reilly/Alestle

Student Government postpones Flute Day funding request Concert location up in the air for award-winning flutist

CODY KING
Alestle Copy Editor

Student Body President Nasir Almasri, with the approval of the Student Government senators, postponed the decision to grant funding for the Flute Club of SIUE's program request.

The Flute Club requested to bring world-renowned flutist and Juilliard School professor Carol Wincenc to campus for both a recital and a master class. However, given the expense of \$5,777 and the lack of a reserved location for the event, SG tabled the request and will make a decision at the next meeting.

Financial Officer Tre Martin said although there is more work to be done, SG made the right choice.

"I think the meeting went very well," Martin said. "I think we did a nice, sensitive job cultivating the idea that SIUE does like music and we do like the arts and we do support the arts. So, I think we did a good job. There's a little back end that needs some work that needs to be done, that we are ready to do."

According to Martin, it was difficult being both the voice of reason and someone in support of the event, but he wanted to make

sure the club was determined to keep making arrangements.

"I actually chatted with them after the decision was made because I wanted to make sure that they weren't discouraged," Martin said. "I wanted to make sure that they understood the next step that they had to take in order to have a successful program."

The issue caused a few intense moments, but SG came together to make a temporary resolution. According to Almasri, Martin stood his ground, despite the controversy.

"I think [Martin] handled it well. He said, 'You know, is this worth the amount of money that we are spending and the number of students that will be impacted? Or is it worth impacting the university enough with this amount of money?' So, those two are both very valid viewpoints, and I think the senate made it clear that they want to give them the money," Almasri said. "So I said, 'You guys want to give them the money; let's stop and see if we can find the right way to do it,' because if we are going to do it the wrong way, then I don't want to give them the money."

The event is expected to benefit all students who attend, as well

as the music department and campus as a whole. According to Martin, there had already been actions made to reach out to the music department in regards to assistance in funding.

"There was a motion made to

not like we have tons of money to spend. But, I think it wouldn't wear out our budget to give them the five thousand for a world-renowned artist," Almasri said.

Although the decision to fund this event has not yet been final-

"I wanted to make sure that they understood the next step that they had to take in order to have a successful program."

Tre Martin

Student Government Financial Officer

cut the speaker and artist fee in half — just to send a message to the music department saying, 'Hey, we need some sponsorship,' as it does benefit a great majority of their students and served as a recruitment tool with the middle school and the high school," Martin said.

However, the music department has not complied yet with the request. The Flute Club is also planning to do several fundraising events to help out with the amount needed. Almasri believes SG can assist with funding with this event, despite the budget limitations.

"As far as our budget goes, it's

ized, SG is optimistic. According to Almasri, once the location is set, the funding is likely to be granted.

"My hope is they can find a space and we can give them the funding. The senate agrees that we should give them the funding, great — so, let's find a space and give them the funding. That's our best hope here," Almasri said.

In other business, three organizations underwent constitutional reviews: the Pre-Physical Therapy Association, Autism Speaks U Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and the Young Americans for Liberty.

The following travel requests were approved for \$600: the Wagner Potters Association to attend the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts Conference March 25-28; the International Student Council to attend the 3rd National Conference of International Student Organizations March 13-18; and the Joint Engineering Student Council to attend the National Association of Engineering Student Council's National Conference March 19-21.

A program request was approved for \$2,000 for the Student Art Therapy Association to host Tools of the Trade: An Art Therapist's Integrative Approach to Healing Trauma event on Saturday, March 21.

A travel request was denied for \$600 for the Student Nurses' Association to attend the National Student Nurses' Association's Annual Convention April 8-12. This request was denied due to no representatives being present at the time it was discussed, and denied by the SG Finance Board as well.

SG's next meeting is at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6, in the Goshen Lounge.

Cody King can be reached at cking@alestlelive.com or 650-3525.



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Step | Up

'Ebony and Ivory' Step Show raises money, applause

PUJA MEHTA
Alestle Reporter

On Thursday, Jan. 22nd, Greek life came together to host the annual "Ebony and Ivory" Step Show. Junior medical biology major Phoebe Kunjara, of Rockford, said she had a blast watching the show.

"This is the first year I went to this event. Watching the step show really allowed me to see what the Greeks can put together as a whole. I'm not in any sort of Greek life, so it was nice being able to watch them showcase their talent," Kunjara said. "I definitely think that everyone should take the opportunity to watch the step show. It was pretty fun!"

While many came to watch the show for the first time, John Davenport, adviser for Greek Council and coordinator for fraternity and sorority life, said he has been to the step show several times and began to appreciate various aspects of it.

"What I have really come to enjoy over the years is to appreciate the fact that — especially the Pan-Hellenic women — their sororities' step teams have ramped up their performance so much," Davenport said. "And it used to be 'Oh, you know, they did a nice job.' And now it's like 'Dang, you're good!' They really get into it and the level of performance is so much higher than what it was."

Aside from the enjoyable and fun nature of the show, it benefited the Greeks' philanthropy — the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Davenport said this foundation makes the desires of children with illnesses happen.

"Make-A-Wish grants wishes to kids that have, not necessarily fatal diseases, but really serious diseases — things like cancer, leukemia, or MS [Multiple sclerosis]. Usually the kids wish for something like a trip to Disney World," Davenport said. "The one that was big in the news last year, there was a little boy in San Francisco who wanted to be Batman and like the entire city of San Francisco went all out to make this kid feel like Batman for a day and it was really cool. So the wishes can range between a lot, but most of them tend to be trips or things like meeting a celebrity."

According to Ryan Johnson, sophomore business administration major and president for

Greek Council, the money raised from this event will also help Greek life with their future endeavors.

"This is Greek Council's big fundraiser for the year. So some of the money will stay with Greek Council and the rest of it will go to Make-A-Wish. The tickets were \$5 a piece. This event helps pay for things like sending our executive members to a leadership conference in Indianapolis next weekend, and it just pays for odds and ends like reserving rooms ... We do half-and-half, where half of the money stays and half goes to Make-A-Wish Foundation," Johnson said.

Aside from the financial aspect of this event, it was also used to strengthen the bond within the sisterhoods and brotherhoods of Greek life. Johnson said this was an integral part of this event.

"One of the big goals of this event was to enhance Greek unity," Johnson said. "Everyone was cheering for everyone, which is always good for Greek unity."

The audience members were not the only ones who could feel the support there was in the room, but so could the performers. Alpha Xi Delta member and sophomore exercise science major Mikah Maduzia, of Clinton, said the event went well this year.

"Everyone was friendly with each other and we all supported each other," Maduzia said. "I really liked when the Alphas came out because they helped us a little bit, so it was awesome seeing them perform too."

The show's success had a lot to do with the size of the audience. The room was full, according to Kunjara.

"It was very full when I walked in, and that was about 30 minutes after the show had started. I stood up for a majority of the time," Kunjara said. "I was surprised that there was so many people, but then again I'm sure everyone wanted to see the step show."

Since there was so much support from

such a large crowd, Johnson felt the step show was a triumph.

"It was so packed. I saw most seats were filled, and there were many people without seats, so I would say it was a huge success," Johnson said.

Although this event's success was illustrated in its donations to the Make-A-Wish Foundation and Greek life, this achievement was important to the participants.

"This means a lot to us because it's something we can go out and do as a group; we can show what we have, and show our hard work because it takes months and months of planning for this," Maduzia said. "We started practicing in September or October."

Even though the performers had been practicing for a long time, not everybody involved had this opportunity. In fact, Johnson said this was the first step show he was in charge of, and he had very little time to plan it.

"I was elected early December or late November so I've only had a little bit of time because we had Christmas break and we've only been back at school for a couple of weeks," Johnson said. "We basically had two weeks to plan this. We started really planning on January 12th. The time aspect was hard."

Many who were involved with the show have been a part of the tradition for several years. Davenport said the "Ebony and Ivory" Step Show has been going on for almost 20 years.

"I have been the coordinator for fraternity and sorority life since 1999, and this event had been going on for about three years when I started here," Davenport said.

"It was an idea, and I'm not sure of the exact origin of it, but it was always explained to me this way. 'Stepping' is something that is traditionally done by African-American fraternities and sororities, so hence the 'Ebony.' It was going to be the NPHC [National Pan-Hellenic Council], the African-American organizations, working to teach the 'Ivory,' the IFC [Interfraternity Council] and Pan-Hellenic groups, how to step and to try to bring the groups together in a program."

Even after all these years, Johnson said the step show remains an unforgettable event for the university.

"From what I've heard, it's most people's favorite event that Greek life puts on. Although not all organizations performed in it, most organizations attended," Johnson said. "It's one of the biggest events for Greek life, so we were excited to be a part of it."

Puja Mehta can be reached at pmehta@alestlelive.com or 650-3530.



Junior mass communications major Brianna Stewart, of Effingham, represents Alpha Xi Delta in the "Ebony and Ivory Step Show" Thursday, Jan. 22. | Photo by Lashai Spencer/ Alestle

WWE mobile app allows gamers to once again enjoy a wrestling game

BEN LEVIN

Alestle Sports Editor

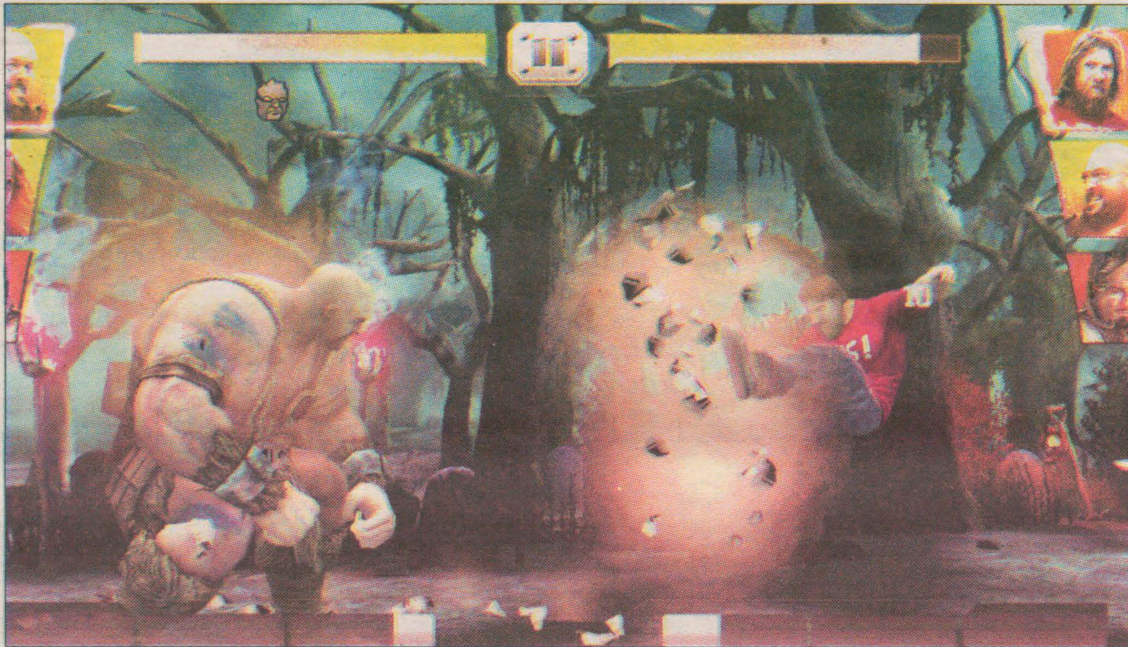
With simple controls and a new take on World Wrestling Entertainment Superstars, "WWE Immortals" is the kind of dumb mobile game professional wrestling fans can enjoy.

Developed by NetherRealm Studios — the same company that makes the "Mortal Kombat" games — "WWE Immortals" uses a basic tap, press and swipe control system that does not allow for much variation in the characters' move-sets, but makes for an easy-to-play game even rookie players can enjoy.

Like other fighting games for mobile devices, a tap of the screen is a light attack, a swipe causes the fighter to do a medium strength attack and by putting down two fingers, the device will cause the Superstar to block. The special attacks, which vary in control, are executed by hitting a button in the bottom left of the screen, and then powered up by following on-screen commands.

The special moves are fun to watch because they are mostly influenced by moves the actual Superstars have executed in their own repertoire and use in most of their matches. For example, Roman Reigns uses a Superman punch as one of his special moves, although there is a little flair thrown into this rendition of the move.

There are three tiers of special moves, all of which can be made more powerful through the use of in-game currency. Getting these moves to their highest potential is almost essential for players, considering much of the damage done in the



"WWE Immortals" allows players to play as some of their favorite WWE Superstars, while also enjoying a new type of wrestling gameplay. | Photo via "WWE Immortals"

game is from these moves.

The first two tiers are unlocked quickly and allow the player to mash or swipe to increase the moves' power, but the final — and most lethal — special attacks are more cinematic and are, in a way, reminiscent of finishing moves in the "Mortal Kombat" series. No, these moves are not anything like fatalities — can you imagine how childlike those would look in a game made during the PG-era of WWE — but they do add to the experience of playing the game.

Unlike the special moves, the basic moves for each fighter are similar, and are mostly limited to weak punches or kicks. The only reason to really use these attacks is to help get your fighter more energy to perform special moves. Along with

doing little damage, these moves are usually done in combinations and can open you up for a powerful move used by your opponent.

With three-versus-three battles, where the two Superstars not in use gain energy about as fast as the wrestler fighting. Learning when to hit an opponent with a special move is critical to success in the game. Switching fighters in and out quickly is a good way to prevent high amounts of damage being inflicted in a short period of time.

Multiple fighter battles are different from most games NetherRealm creates, and it seems this "test run" was not all it could be. Since fighters not dueling gain energy, after you hit one special move, you can usually go on to the next Super-

star, in a cycle that continues until the match has ended.

While this method works, the most effective defense is blocking, which does not stop all damage on an attack but limits it and opens up the opposition for a counterattack. Unfortunately, as the challengers presented in the game's story mode get harder, gamers have to use blocks far too often.

Speaking of the story mode, it is so ridiculously stupid — even by WWE standards — it becomes irrelevant almost immediately. Basically, Triple H and Stephanie McMahon open an urn that unleashes Superstars with historic outfits, and now they are all fighting.

Sure the story makes no sense, but it allows for players to be introduced to some cool fighters that do not look like

your average WWE wrestler. From a Roman warrior "Reigns" to a golden sorcerer "Undertaker" that will make you wish he has one more Wrestlemania in him, the wrestlers in this game look really good as one might expect from a NetherRealm game.

Most characters are enjoyable, but both of John Cena's outfits in the game look really bad. The cheaper of the two looks like a Kurtis Stryker — the guy from "Mortal Kombat" that looks like he is part of a SWAT team and you probably skip over him because he is the least interesting character in the game — knock-off, while the second outfit looks like a sad, semi-balding Superman. Most people dislike Cena for his lack of in-ring talent, but this game takes that distaste to a whole new level with unimpressive attire.

The roster is extremely limited, but buying new characters with in-game coins or real money is not necessary, considering all fighters can be leveled up through winning battles. Each of the fighters has two different outfits, with the more interesting ones costing more coins.

Coins and a stamina system — which can be manipulated by changing the time on your mobile device — are currently the only things in the game that can be bought with real money. It is a nice thing to see, considering most free-to-play mobile games try to get your cash by forcing players to pay if they want to play for an extended period of time.

Read more about 'WWE Immortals' at alestlelive.com

Alpha Psi Lambda:

New Greek organization provides a sense of familiarity for Latino, Hispanic students

MADISON O'BRIEN

Alestle Reporter

Members of the newly formed fraternity colony, Alpha Psi Lambda, sum up their main goal in two words — "uno familia."

On Feb. 11, 1985, Alpha Psi Lambda was founded at Ohio State University. Since then, 25 chapters have been formed across the United States, promoting the growth of membership and Latino culture.

Now, 30 years later, Alpha Psi Lambda has been added to SIUE's Greek community. Senior business major Karina Arcos, of East Moline, is the president of SIUE Alpha Psi Lambda.

"We only have eight members right now, which is why we are considered a colony, but our hope is Alpha Psi Lambda will grow into something so much more," Arcos said.

Arcos said she worked hard for the fraternity to become a part of SIUE's Greek community here on campus because she loved the idea of a co-educational Latino fraternity.

Education, family and Latino culture are the core values Alpha Psi Lambda promotes.

"I am really looking forward to the Latino community coming together because we make up such a small population on campus," Arcos said.

Arcos said advertising the fraternity's events is essential for Alpha Psi Lambda in order to spread awareness about its presence on campus.

"Greek retreats are awesome resources to spread the word of our colony," Arcos said. "Listening to other presidents of Greek life speak about their thoughts and ideas helps me out, too."

Sophomore criminal justice major Jacqueline Alcala, of Aurora, loves that the university is finally incorporating a

Latino fraternity, giving the campus more opportunities to express its culture.

"I think a lot of the Latino population on campus will join the colony because the culture is something we all have in common," Alcala said.

Alcala said people can easily get involved by going to informationals or even by simply hanging out with people who are already in the organization.

Senior Spanish major Alberto Jasso, of Chicago, said there is a large percentage of Latinos and Hispanics who do not attend college.

"The fact Alpha Psi Lambda can combine a brother and sisterhood to make a family aspect for Latinos on campus is amazing," Jasso said.

Jasso joined the fraternity not just because of what the organization promotes, but also because of how the people in the group presented themselves.

"The people in Alpha Psi Lambda are very attractive in the way that they pres-

ent themselves and how passionate they are about their culture," Jasso said.

Sophomore special education major Kataria Diaz, of Kewanee, believes the approximately 500 Latino students on campus will now have a voice.

"There are many white and black organizations on campus, and now, finally having a Latino one, my only hope is that our culture can be represented," Diaz said.

Diaz was most drawn to the fraternity because of the co-educational aspect, believing it makes Alpha Psi Lambda stand out among the rest.

In the future Arcos wants Alpha Psi Lambda to stay around on campus for a long time to come.

"I have confidence that Alpha Psi Lambda will continue to grow year after year," Arcos said.

Madison O'Brien can be reached at mobrien@alestlelive.com or 650-3530.

Express your opinion 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Polls, message boards and more at www.alestlelive.com.

OPINION

Questions or comments regarding this section? Contact Opinion Editor at 650-3527 or opinion@alestlelive.com.

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Thursday, January 29, 2015

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All hard copy letters should be typed and double-spaced. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. Include phone number, signature, class rank and major.

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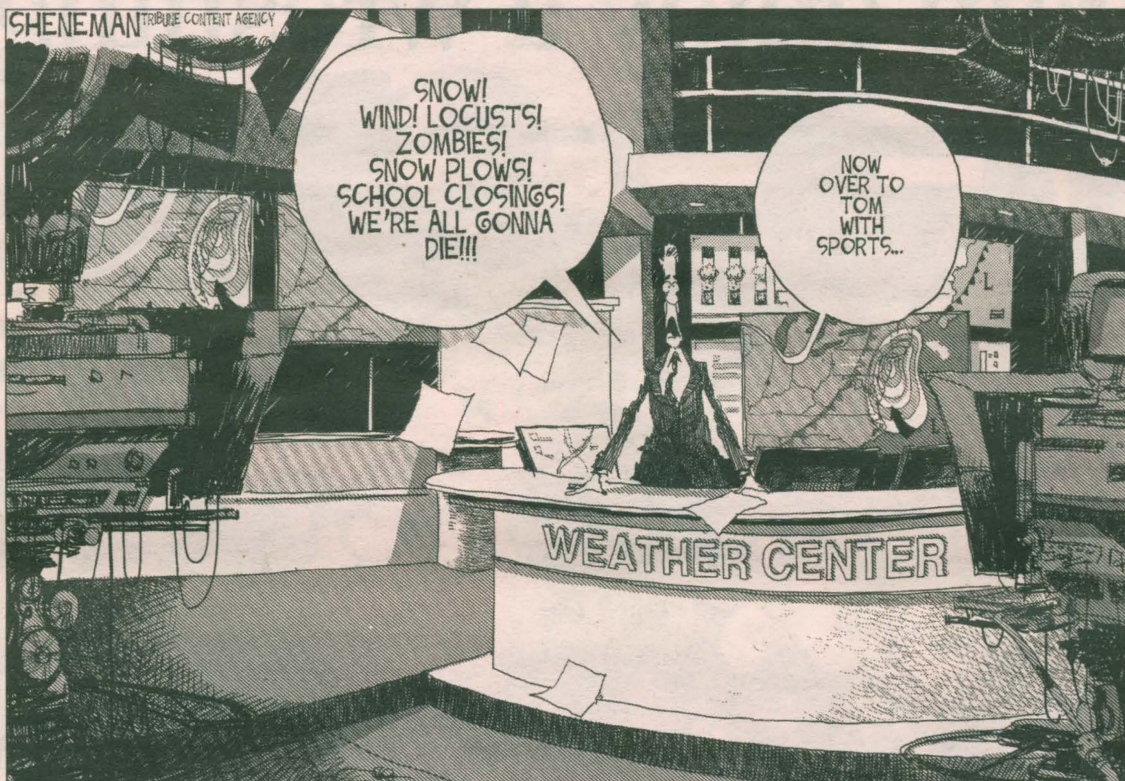
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University's Greek community defies media portrayal

In regards to a previous editorial concerning Greek life, I want to address some concerns regarding the character of Greek organizations, specifically those on our campus. Nothing in this world is perfect, and fraternities and sororities are no exception.

Elizabeth O'Donnell
Alestle
Copy Editor

With fraternities across the nation making headlines for sexual assault, harassment, gang rape, fostering rape culture, sexism and misogyny, it's no wonder Greek organizations receive a bad reputation.

Add the media's portrayal as partiers and heavy drinkers, such as in "Neighbors," "22 Jump Street," and numerous other films, and you have a toxic combination.

Sadly, some do fit this stereotype, but a large portion of these communities are not of this nature. Greek culture is rarely brought to our attention, but when it is, it's negative exposure. What the media and society fail to recognize is the positive actions of these organizations.

Most, if not all, Greek organizations

require and encourage its members to volunteer their time and perform community service; members are required to document so many hours each semester. These acts of community service can range from volunteering at local animal shelters, nursing homes, soup kitchens and more.

Not only do these fraternities and sororities perform community service, but they also raise money for certain causes, including breast cancer, eating disorders, cystic fibrosis, autism and more.

During the 2014 school year, SIUE's Epsilon Xi chapter of Alpha Phi raised \$8,000 at its "King of Hearts" philanthropy event and \$10,000 at its "Red Dress Gala" philanthropy event — all to raise awareness for women's heart health.

In October 2014, SIUE's Tau Gamma chapter of Omega Psi Phi sponsored the Omega Breast Cancer Run/Walk to raise money for breast cancer and passed its donation goal of \$500.

Each year, SIUE's chapter of Delta Phi Epsilon sponsors ANAD (anorexia nervosa and associated disorders) Awareness week, promoting positive body image, and the "65 Roses Gala," raising money for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

SIUE's Iota Upsilon chapter of Alpha Xi

Delta focuses its fundraising on Autism Speaks.

When SIUE alumnus, Alex Jette, was severely injured in a car accident, Jarrod James, a member of SIUE's chapter of Sigma Pi, put together a fundraiser to help Jette's family with medical bills. The entire Greek community and others came together as a whole and raised \$7,515 in 18 days.

While there are imperfections in Greek culture and partying and drinking might occur, — it's college and this trait is not exclusive to these organizations — it is important to realize that the media's distortions are not always accurate. Most Greek organizations are altruistic, but are rarely represented as such.

For those of you who are not part of a fraternity or sorority, please do not be so quick to judge members of these groups. And for those belonging to a Greek organization, I urge you to make your philanthropy known and challenge the stereotype. Hold public panels to discuss the stereotypes and inform the public you are more than a label. Your caliber is not in a label, but in your actions.

Elizabeth O'Donnell can be reached at eodonnell@alestlelive.com.

Center Court lacks convenience, should think about off-campus eaters

Only a fraction of the nearly 14,000 students enrolled at SIUE are freshmen living in the residence halls, yet Center Court — the largest food source on campus — is structured mainly around them.



Mady O'Reilly
Alestle
Managing Editor

As a freshman, I found myself sitting in the sea of tables in Center Court with my friends at least twice daily. Even on days when we didn't have classes, we would still make the trek up and down Mt. Prairie just to sit down and eat. We didn't have kitchens readily available; our meal plans worked there, and we could carry our separately packaged parts of our complete meal on our trays, so it was very convenient.

Even on days where we just wanted to

grab something and go back to the dorms, we didn't want to have to juggle everything, so we usually grabbed the readily available take out bags from Pizza Hut — which are no longer provided.

During my sophomore year when I moved out of Prairie Hall and into the real world, I realized how completely impossible it was to easily grab something and go to class. Students who don't live on campus don't always have time to physically sit down and eat. Even students who live on campus don't have that luxury every day.

If the university provided some sort of bags I can only imagine how much more efficient the lines would be. Instead of having to wait for the person ahead of you to clumsily collect everything after they've already had to set it all down, once an item has been rung up, we can place it in the bag, pay for our overly-priced cafeteria food and be on our separate ways.

Yes, Entrees offers to go boxes for an extra charge, but other vendors within Center Court do not.

I understand our university promotes sustainability and tries to be as eco-friendly as possible, so instead of using plastic bags, I think implementing paper bags is a fair compromise.

Yes, Dining Services has the Napkin Board where students wanting change can tack up their suggestions, but I have often walked past it and seen the same suggestions scribbled on napkins tacked up for weeks at a time.

If take out bags were available at the cashier lines, it would help on-the-run students and professors rush to the next item on their full schedules without empty stomachs.

Mady O'Reilly can be reached at moreilly@alestlelive.com.

Do you think Greek life is accurately portrayed in the media or do they get an unwarranted bad reputation?

Answer our poll at www.alestlelive.com.

SPORTS

Questions or comments regarding this section? Contact the Sports Editor at 650-3524 or sports@alestlelive.com

Thursday, January 29, 2015

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Standings



*Standings and Results as of 12 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28

Women's Basketball

	OVERALL	OVC
UT Martin	11-9	7-0
SIUE	12-9	7-1
Tenn. State	8-10	5-2
Morehead St.	9-12	5-3
Austin Peay	7-13	4-3
Jax. State	13-7	4-4
Belmont	7-14	4-4
E. Illinois	7-14	4-4
E. Kentucky	8-9	3-4
Tenn. Tech	5-17	2-7
SE Missouri	8-13	1-7
Murray State	5-15	0-7

Results from Jan. 24

Austin Peay 66, E. Illinois 63
Jax. State 72, Morehead St. 64
SIUE 78, Murray State 52
UT Martin 96, SE Missouri 55
Belmont 64, Tenn. State 62
E. Kentucky 97, Tenn. Tech 93

Results from Jan. 26

Morehead St. 64, Tenn. Tech 54

Schedule for Jan. 28

E. Kentucky at Jax. State
UT Martin at Tenn. State
Murray State at E. Illinois
Austin Peay at SIUE

Schedule for Jan. 31

E. Kentucky at Morehead St.
SIUE at E. Illinois
Tenn. Tech at Belmont
SE Missouri at Austin Peay
UT Martin at Murray State
Jax. State at Tenn. State

Schedule for Feb. 4

Belmont at Morehead St.
UT Martin at Austin Peay

Men's Basketball

	OVERALL	OVC
EAST		
Belmont	13-7	5-2
Morehead St.	9-13	4-3
E. Kentucky	11-8	3-3
Tenn. Tech	10-11	2-6
Jax. State	9-13	2-6
Tenn. State	3-18	0-6
WEST		
Murray State	17-4	7-0
E. Illinois	12-8	6-2
UT Martin	12-7	4-2
SIUE	8-11	4-4
SE Missouri	9-11	3-4
Austin Peay	7-13	2-4

Results from Jan. 22

Morehead St. 78, Tenn. Tech 74
Jax. State 71, E. Kentucky 67
SIUE 69, Austin Peay 65
Belmont 72, UT Martin 67
Murray State 77, E. Illinois 62

Results from Jan. 24

Austin Peay 56, E. Illinois 52
Morehead St. 66, Jax. State 63
UT Martin 70, SE Missouri 53
Murray State, SIUE 54
Tenn. Tech 83, E. Kentucky 81

Schedule for Jan. 29

E. Illinois at UT Martin
SIUE at SE Missouri
Jax. State at Belmont
Tenn. Tech at Tenn. State
E. Kentucky at Murray State

Schedule for Jan. 31

Tenn. Tech at Belmont
E. Kentucky at Morehead St.
SIUE at E. Illinois
UT Martin at Murray State
SE Missouri at Austin Peay
Jax. State at Tenn. State

Schedule for Feb. 3

Baker University at E. Illinois



Redshirt junior guard Shrona Butts fights her way up for a lay-up against Tennessee State University. On Saturday, Jan. 24, Butts helped the team to its seventh consecutive win, scoring 21 points to lead all SIUE scorers. | Photo by Christian K. Lee/Alestle

Women's basketball extends win streak in 26-point victory

BEN LEVIN
Alestle Sports Editor

With a dominating performance on both ends of the court, the women's basketball team ran past Murray State University on Saturday, Jan. 24, defeating the conference-worst Racers 78-52 to move the Cougars' win streak to seven games.

The Cougars shot just below 44 percent from the field, but got a huge boost from their defense, swiping nine steals and bringing down 10 more rebounds than their opposition.

Head Coach Paula Buscher said she was happy with the victory, but the strong display the team put on during Saturday's victory was not the finished product she hopes to have at the end of the season.

"I think we keep building," Buscher said. "We're not where we want to be yet on the defensive end, but I thought tonight was a good step forward. I thought we looked in early in the game, and [the team] really paid attention to the scout. I think the staff does a great job of scouting reports, and I thought our players really tried to step up and lock in on who we really need to shut down, how we're defending ball screens and just all the little details in the game. I felt we did that tonight on the defensive end."

Redshirt junior guard and team-points-per-game leader Shrona Butts led the Cougars in scoring with 21 points, going 10-15 from the field with most of her points coming in and around the paint. Butts echoed her

coach's praise of the team's defensive efforts and said it has been key to its game day preparation throughout the duration of the year.

"During the season, we've struggled getting stops a little bit," Butts said. "In practice, we worked on [defense] a lot, just trying to contain their guards because their guards are really good. Our team really focused in on that — especially the guards — in containing, and I think that's what helped the game. I think we had an all-out effort."

"I think we keep building ... I thought tonight was a good step forward."

Paula Buscher
SIUE Women's Basketball Head Coach

Butts, who eclipsed the 20-point mark for the seventh time this season, is in her first year on the floor with the Cougars, having transferred from Bradley University. Butts said she and her teammates have clicked on the court, helping her score more points and help the team spread the scoring around in the process.

"My teammates find and try to get me open as much [as possible] so I can contribute," Butts said. "I just try to look for my teammates because that's the key in just dishing out to who's open and who's not."

While Butts led the team in points, senior guard Tierny Austin may have had the best

overall performance for the team, with a double-double with her 11 points and 11 rebounds, while also leading the team with four steals.

Buscher said the performances the team got from Austin and Butts were exactly what she expects from them every time out.

"[Austin] is one of the toughest kids I've ever coached," Buscher said. "She loves to win, and she doesn't care what her role is on the team to win. Sometimes she really just leads by example, [by] how hard she works. She

the top of the score sheet.

"This is a long season," Buscher said. "Everyone talks about a marathon and not a sprint, and there's a lot of things that can happen throughout the season. It can be injury, illness, whatever and we always have to be ready; whoever's next needs to be ready to step up and help. When you have multiple people scoring in double figures, that's obviously a great asset for us."

The 26-point victory is the team's largest of its seven game win streak, a streak that dates back to Saturday, Jan. 3. Austin said one of big things the team has improved on during that span is its intensity during the game.

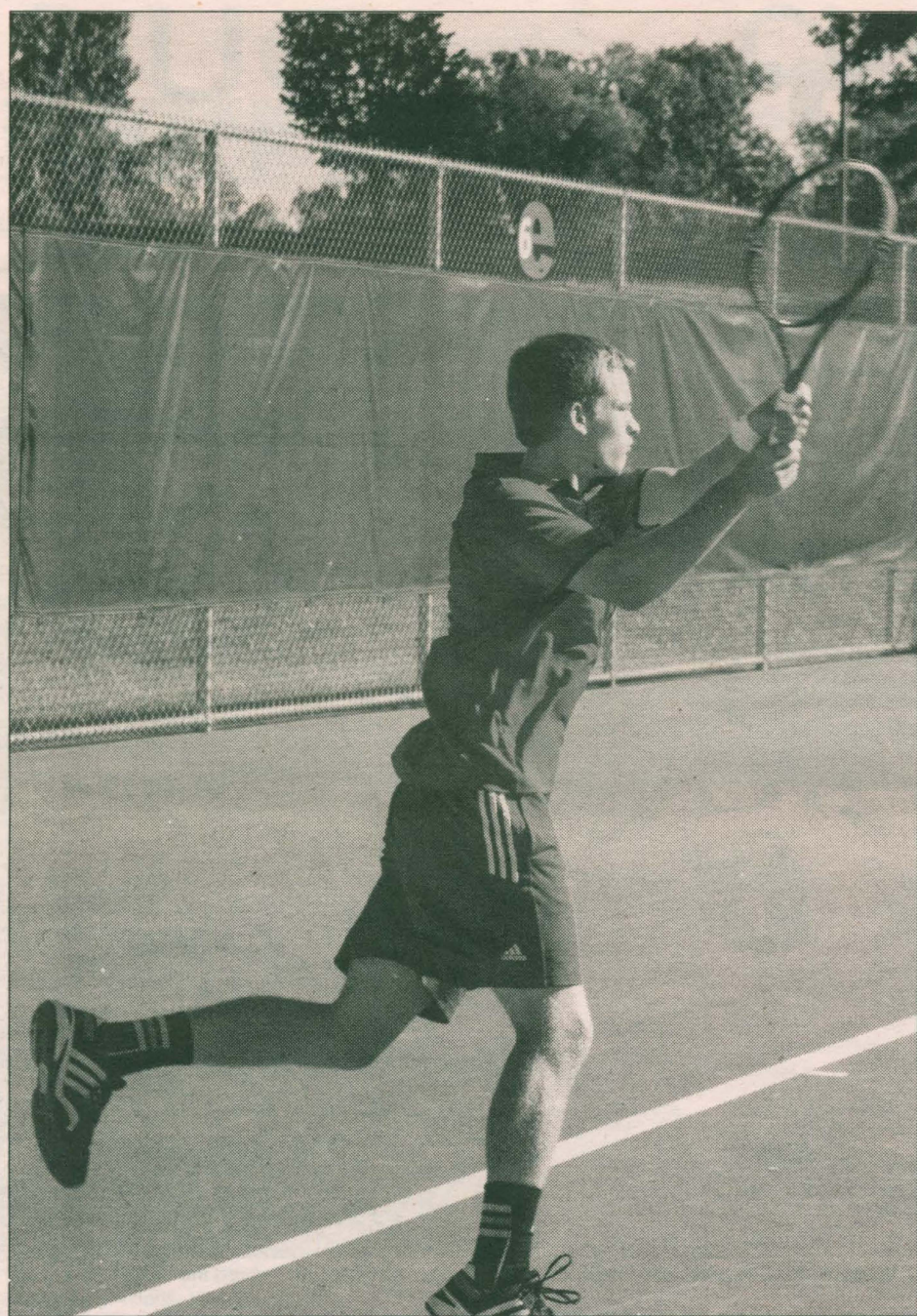
"I would say our energy [has been consistent]," Austin said. "We're coming out with a lot of energy each game and trying to get it going so that we can get it going on defense so that we can get some stops."

Butts agreed with Austin's assessment of the team's effort, but said the players are not getting overconfident from their recent success.

"Our team has been really humble, and just embracing all the wins we've got," Butts said. "[The] coaches told us to stay positive and keep doing what we're doing — just stay level-headed."

The Cougars played at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28, at the Vadalabene Center, where they took on Austin Peay State University.

Ben Levin can be reached at blevin@alestlelive.com or 650-3524.



Junior Patrick Gaffigan returns a ball in a game from the 2013 season. Gaffigan helped the Cougars to a 6-1 victory against Saint Louis University on Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015

| Alestle File Photo

Men's tennis dominates in first match of the spring

CAITLIN GROVE
Alestle Lifestyles Editor

In the team's first match of the spring season, the men's tennis team dominated Saint Louis University, winning 6-1 in a trouncing that the Cougars lost only one singles match.

Head Coach Jason Coomer said early in the season, coaches could easily worry about how players will respond to certain situations.

"The guys yesterday came out and looked like an experienced team," Coomer said. "We have always said that setting the tone early is critical toward reaching our goals. The guys responded just as you would hope a veteran team would respond."

The Cougars rang victorious in all three doubles matches. In the first doubles match of the day, junior Marten Jonsson and junior Nico Kuehn won 5-2. In the second match, seniors Nicolas Vincent and Stephen Washuta defeated their opponents 6-3. In the final doubles match, sophomore Matthew Hutchinson and junior Patrick Gaffigan won 6-3.

The team won five out of its six singles matches. Each match went two sets, with the exception of the third match where freshman Tristan Houle took his opponent for the full three sets.

Coomer said defeating the Billikens was an all-around team effort.

"Everybody that played for us contributed to obtaining a point for us in the match," Coomer said. "[Vincent] is a senior and did exactly what I would expect he would do; he took control early and never looked back. [Kuehn] is having one of his best years yet. He had a tough opponent, but found a way to get the win for us."

Kuehn won his first singles match of the season, defeating his opponent 6-2, 6-4 in no. 2 singles. Kuehn said the team stayed on top

of every point and this contributed to its success.

"We are all very focused, but I think the best thing about it was that we were full of energy and ready to play," Kuehn said. "I was very satisfied with my game. I came out pretty good and felt good up there. Of course, there are some aspects I need to work on and focus on the next couple weeks to be where I want to be, but for the first match I am satisfied."

Despite the victory, Coomer agrees there is still progress to be made.

"You expect mistakes early in the season and you also expect players to not perform at the level you know they are capable of," Coomer said. "I left Sunday's match feeling pretty good about how our guys approached their matches. I can't say that I've felt that way after the first match in years past, but at the same time, I am also very conscious of the fact that getting too excited early in the season could lead to feeling disappointed in the middle and the end of the season."

Coomer said it is important to remember how the team prepared for Sunday's match and imitate that for the rest of the season.

"It's hard not to feel positive after Sunday's match," Coomer said. "We feel like we have a lot of work to do, but we also feel confident moving into this weekend. [Chicago State University] has quite a few new players we are not familiar with, but if we come out with the focus that we did this past weekend, I certainly think we will have another good opportunity to get the win."

The team's next game is 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31, at the Edwardsville YMCA against Chicago State University.

Caitlin Grove can be reached at
cgrove@alestlelive.com or 650-3524.

Late missed opportunities doom men's basketball

BEN LEVIN
Alestle Sports Editor

Allowing the opposition to get late offensive rebounds, the men's basketball team dropped to 4-4 in the conference after a 60-54 home loss to Murray State University on Saturday, Jan. 24.

With the Racers making two consecutive trips to the free-throw line, the Cougars could not take advantage of missed free throws, and gave up offensive rebounds to Murray State off the misses. On-the-road team's third attempt at free throws, MSU big man senior Jarvis Williams sunk two shots from the charity stripe, ending the SIUE threat.

Head Coach Lennox Forrester was disappointed his team could not give the conference-leading Racers their first loss of the season, but said his team's efforts throughout the game were noteworthy.

"Overall, I thought our guys played hard," Forrester said. "They brought great energy; I wish it could be for 40 minutes. I talked to them just about having to have that toughness for the 40 minutes, and tonight I thought we brought some good effort, good energy for about 38 or 37 and a half minutes. Just down the stretch, we didn't do a good job on the boards. Obviously, they had 21 offensive rebounds where they just killed us, but overall I thought our effort was spectacular. I know Murray

State's a very, very good team, and I thought our guys gave them a handful."

Holding the Ohio Valley Conference leader in points per game to 60 points — well below its 78 points per game average — the SIUE defense was on top of the Murray State shooters for most of the night, forcing tough shots each time down the court.

Along with attempting to stop the best scoring team in the conference, the Cougars were saddled with the task of slowing down the OVC's individual point leader, senior guard Cameron Payne, who averages 19 points per game.

Forrester said he was impressed with the SIUE defense, but thought a few mistakes early in the game cost his team the victory.

"I thought our defense was good," Forrester said. "I know Payne had 22, but again I thought our guys made it pretty tough for him to get those 22. I thought, overall, our defense was pretty good. They were shooting a low percentage, and obviously they got a lot of them back; twenty-one of the missed field goals that they had, they got back."

The Cougars were led on offense by senior guards Kris Davis and Rozell Nunn. Both shooting 4-10 from the field, Davis was the only SIUE scorer to reach double figures, scoring 10. Nunn dropped eight on MSU, and led the team with six



Senior guard Kris Davis drives toward the basket against Murray State University on Saturday, Jan. 24. Davis scored a team-high 10 points in the 60-54 loss.

| Photo by Christian K. Lee/Alestle

rebounds.

The Cougars got important minutes off the bench from two first-year players. Freshman guard C.J. Carr scored eight points and swiped three steals in his 21 minutes on the floor. Junior guard Jake Newton scored seven points in his 14 minutes of play, grabbing three rebounds in the process.

The Cougars' 54 points, which came from a 37 percent shooting night, was the third-lowest total the team has scored this season. Forrester said he believes his team will continue to

get better at shooting throughout the games and hopes the defense will follow suit.

"I thought that there's times that we've played with inconsistency," Forrester said. "I think the inconsistency more comes on the road for us even though there's times for us at home where we can shoot the basketball poorly, but our guys are able to tough it out to get a win. Now, we have some road games where we have to find our way and figure out to win. Hopefully, we can bring the intensity and the effort like we

did tonight."

The Cougars' next game is at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 29, when the team travels to Cape Girardeau, Mo., to take on Southeast Missouri State University. The team's next home game is at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14, when the team plays against Eastern Illinois University. The game will be shown on Fox Sports Midwest.

Ben Levin can be reached at
blevin@alestlelive.com or 650-3524.

Women's tennis smacked by Saint Louis University

CAITLIN GROVE
Alestle Lifestyles Editor

Despite two wins in doubles, the women's tennis team could not find success in singles, and lost to Saint Louis University 6-1 on Sunday, Jan. 25.

The Cougars won no. 1 and no. 2 doubles matches out of the gate. Sophomore Lexi Aranda and junior Sierra Halverson clinched the first doubles match of the day, 6-4, improving their doubles record to 2-8 this season. In no. 2 match, new doubles pair sophomore Mia Frogner and junior Monique Krutak also emerged victorious 6-2, putting their doubles record at 1-0.

Coming into singles play, the Cougars had a 1-0 advantage over SLU. However, the Cougars dropped all six of the singles matches, with Halverson and senior Haley Ilcewicz each going a full three sets with their opponents.

Head Coach Amanda Pratzel said the team came out strong in doubles from the start and had many opportunities for singles victories.

"We played some of the best doubles of all year," Pratzel said. "In singles, we let a few slip away. Coming in short-handed doesn't make it easier, but we did put ourselves in position [to

win]; it just didn't end up on our end. When you are short a player in a match, you just have to manage and hope it won't be for a long period of time."

Ilcewicz said she felt the team as a whole competed well against the Billikens.

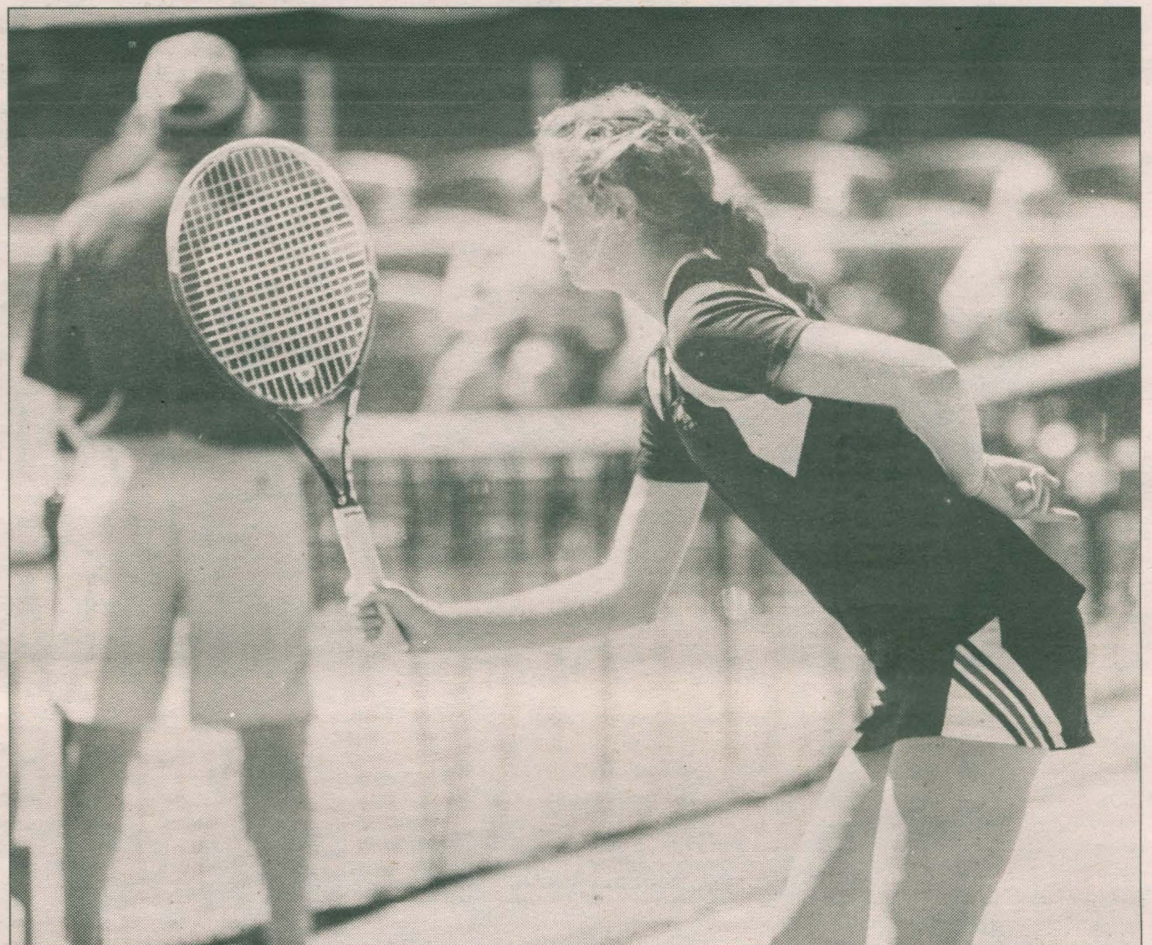
"Our doubles play was great — some of the best I've seen since I've been here," Ilcewicz said. "Singles wise, we had many opportunities to win a lot of the matches we were in and it just came down to the bigger points and that didn't necessarily go our way. Otherwise, I thought it was a good start to the season. SLU is a good team; I think it had glimmers of some of the good stuff we could see later on this season."

Pratzel said there are areas in the team's play that warrant improvement.

"As far as doubles go, we're looking to build off [this match] and keep going," Pratzel said. "Singles, we just have a few things individually to tweak. This is what these matches are there to do, to help us get better."

Ilcewicz said while the day did not show the best results, individually, she played fairly well.

"It was just one of those things where it came down to one or two points that didn't go my way," Ilcewicz said. "As a



Junior Sierra Halverson signals to her partner in a game in 2013. Halverson, along with doubles partner sophomore Lexi Aranda, were one of the two doubles teams that won for SIUE against Saint Louis University on Sunday, Jan. 25.

| Alestle File Photo

senior, I'm just playing to play and leaving it all out on the court."

The team played at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28, at the University of Missouri in

Columbia, Mo.

Caitlin Grove can be reached at cgrove@alestlelive.com or 650-3524.

Women's Tennis Statistics

Doubles

Mia Frogner/ Monique Krutak (SIUE) 6, SLU 4
Sierra Halverson/ Lexi Aranda (SIUE) 6, SLU 2
SLU, FORFEIT (SIUE)

Singles

Aspen Cervin (SLU) over Lexi Aranda (SIUE) 7-5, 7-5
Kelsey King (SLU) over Mia Frogner (SIUE) 6-4, 6-0
Natalla Yacaman (SLU) over Monique Krutak (SIUE)

Madison Cook (SLU) over Haley Ilcewicz (SIUE)
Maria Toro (SLU) over Sierra Halverson (SIUE)
Taylor Monken over FORFEIT (SIUE)

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